

Post Community Service Officers

Issue 11

April 2000

NEWSLETTER

A RECOGNIZED LEADER IN CRIME
PREVENTION PROGRAMS



Prevention Services Section Special Operations Division



Senator Mike Rogers and
Tpr. Colleen Wesley

T.E.A.M. School Liaison Program Expands

As some of you may be aware, during the week of January 10-14, 2000, 23 PCSOs from across the state attended the latest T.E.A.M. training. Three sergeants from Prevention Services Section also received the training. Mentors for the week included Troopers Ray Hoffman, Jennifer Elworthy, Michelle Robinson, Rich Johnson, Larry Cannon, and Sgt. David Meyer.

The Michigan State Police (MSP) and Prevention Services Section were very excited to offer the T.E.A.M. program, for the first time, to local police agencies. Training occurred during the week of February 7-11, 2000, at the MSP training academy. Thirty-one officers, as well as one trooper, attended the training. Troopers Jim Powell and Cynthia Edwards took the place of Jennifer Elworthy as mentors for this training.

The Department of Education reports that there are 4,865 public, private, and academy school buildings in this state, educating approximately 1,867,000 students. Clearly, there are many students in this state who can be impacted by the positive influence of the T.E.A.M. curriculum.

On the Horizon:

Upcoming additions to the T.E.A.M. curriculum will include a lesson on fire safety from a criminal justice perspective and the affect it has on the community.

A pre and post test attitude and survey assessment is now complete for high school lessons. Please advise if you are interested in being a pilot site.

Lt. Col. Stephen D. Madden recently went to Washington, D.C. and spoke with law enforcement leaders from across the nation on juvenile justice issues. One of the issues he expounded on was our T.E.A.M. School Liaison Program. We have received inquiries from four states regarding training. Who knows, maybe T.E.A.M. will go all over the country?

INTERNET CRIMES

The Michigan State Police and Michigan Attorney General's Office was awarded a \$300,000 grant from the United States Department of Justice to help fight internet crimes against children. The three components of the grant include specialized training, equipment for a multijurisdictional task force, and public awareness and prevention. The Prevention Services Section will coordinate the prevention efforts through the design of safety mouse pads, bookmarks, brochures, billboards, and public service announcements about internet safety.



The Prevention Services Section will act as a clearinghouse for the Post Community Service Officers who will serve as a point of contact, to distribute internet safety information to the community they serve.

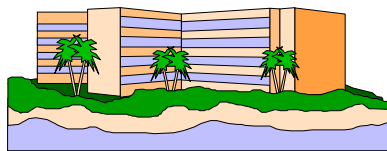
To Your Success...
Some succeed because
they are destined to;
most succeed because
they are determined to.
- Anatole France

WORK PLACE VIOLENCE

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, murder in the workplace is the fastest growing homicide statistic in the United States. Each year there are an estimated one million occurrences of violence. Homicide in the workplace is the third leading cause of work-related death for men and the number one cause for women. According to the Bureau of Labor, 43 percent of all women who died on the job were victims of violence.

Nobody is immune to workplace violence, especially police officers. Official Order #57 covers the department's "zero tolerance" policy and action plan. Some of the warning signs of workplace violence include:

- High stress
- Previous threats of violent behavior
- Verbal abuse, intimidation of co-workers and harassing phone calls
- Holding grudges, inability to handle criticism
- Romantic obsessions, marital problems
- Psychological disorders, alcohol or drug abuse



To help prevent workplace violence conduct a security survey at your post location that addresses, and may include, visitor controls and emergency procedures. Does your post limit access to the building and freedom of movement? Are your security systems adequate, including locked doors, window barriers, and panic alarms? If you need assistance with a security survey contact Sgt. David Hampton, Prevention Services Section, at (517) 336-6603.

CRIME PREVENTION FOR THE ELDERLY

Did You Know:

- The elder population has increased 21 percent in Michigan
- 11.9 percent of Michigan's population is over age 65
- By the year 2020, 16.6 percent of Michigan's population will be over age 65
- By the year 2020, Michigan's population of people over age 85 will increase by 143 percent

THE ELDERLY ARE BEING VICTIMIZED MORE

Between 1996 and 1998, crimes against the elderly increased in Michigan:

* Larceny	up 4%
* Fraud	up 8%
* Burglary	up 11%
* Stolen property	up 17%
* Non-aggravated assault	up 18%
* Neglect	up 36%
* Embezzlement	up 91%

Brochures and Video Tapes:

Radio Shack's United Against Crime brochures will continue to be available for bulk orders. You may retrieve the order form by visiting the United Against Crime web site, www.unitedagainst.com or by calling a fax-back service at 1-800-858-8557 and ordering document number 49970.

www.ncpc.org

NCPC Online offers hundreds of pages of information and ideas for crime fighters of all ages and backgrounds. Get your community excited about crime prevention! Tap into their web site for safety tips, etc.

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Prevention Services Section Special Operations Division

INTERNET CRIME PREVENTION

The Michigan State Police has begun prevention efforts and a public awareness campaign in law enforcement's attempt to combat Internet crimes.

WHAT IS BEING DONE?

To safeguard children while on-line, the Michigan State Police has joined forces with the Attorney General's Office and local law enforcement to launch a 24-hour, toll-free, Cyber-tip telephone line. This Cyber-tip telephone line was created for those who have information on child sexual exploitation including;

- On-line enticement of children for sexual acts.
- Child prostitution
- Child sexual molestation (not in the family)

Billboard advertising has been a prominent sight throughout the Lansing area since July 2000.



WHAT IS COMING SOON?

Internet Safety Information on Mouse Pads

Every public school within the state of Michigan will be provided with a quantity of five informational Internet safety mouse pads. It is recommended that these mouse pads be placed in the school's computer center.

Internet Safety Information on Bookmarks

Age appropriate messages will be printed on bookmarks, for children between the ages of 8 and 18, focusing on on-line prevention and public safety. Bookmarks will be made available to public libraries across Michigan.

Internet Safety Information Brochures

Three brochures will be created, designed to bring awareness to parents, the public, and to victims of Internet crimes. These brochures will include (1) *Cyber-Smart Parents*, (2) *Understanding Cyberspace*, and (3) *Help for Victims of Internet Crime*. Copies of this material will be supplied to each post location.

CHILDREN AS VICTIMS

Although the U.S. violent crime rate has decreased since 1994, homicide remains a leading cause of death for young people. In 1997 (the most recent year for which data was available for the *report*), an average of six juveniles were murdered every day. Between 1980 and 1997, three of four murdered juveniles age 12 or older were killed with a firearm.

Juveniles are twice as likely as adults to be victims of serious violent crimes and three times as likely to be victims of assault. Many of these victims are quite young. Law enforcement data indicate that 1 in 18 victims of violent crime is under age 12. In most cases involving serious violent crime, juvenile victims know the perpetrator, who is not the stereotypical "stranger," but a family member or acquaintance.

(As reported in the 1999 National Report Series, U.S. Department of Justice)

DRIVE-OFFS DON'T DRIVE IN MICHIGAN



Effective June 12, 2000, the penalty for a person convicted of driving away from a gas pump without paying has been enhanced. Under the new law, gas theft is now a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail, a \$500 fine, and a driver's license suspension. Special thanks to Troopers DeVries, Wesley, and Weiss who assisted with the new campaign, "Drive-Offs Don't Drive in Michigan."

ANIMAL ABUSE AND THE LINK TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

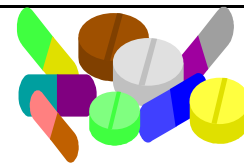
Law Enforcement's Approach

Officers and investigators responding to domestic violence calls or reports of animal abuse or neglect need to consider the scene in its entirety. In conducting domestic violence investigations, officers and detectives might find children in the family more willing to share information about abuse to their animals than to themselves. Taking the time to make these inquiries, while advancing an investigation, can also reveal much about the child's emotional state as well as the situation in the home.

Studies exposing the connection between violence directed at animals and violence directed at people reveal that animal abuse in the home is an indicator of serious family problems, according to the Humane Society.

(As reported by Nancy Turner, Police Response to Violence Against Women Project, IACP, in *The Police Chief*, June 2000)

ANALOGS OF THE GHB RAPE DRUG CONTINUE TO SURFACE



Several questionable products are being sold via the Internet and over-the-counter throughout the nation. These products are being sold as sports or nutritional supplements, sleep aids, fat loss aids, or sexual stimulants, and are in fact dangerous analogs of the so-called "date rape drug," Gamma Hydroxy Butyrate (GHB). The names keep changing, but the dangers are the same.

Names surfacing so far have included: Blue Nitro, Renewtrient, Revivarant, Remforce, Firewater, Enliven, Serenity, Revitalize Plus, Thunder Nectar, Weight Belt Cleaner, SomatoPro, NRG3, and GHRE. They may appear in any color, including clear, light amber, red, or blue. Anyone driving a vehicle under the influence of these substances presents a potential safety hazard. They are used in rapes in exactly the same way GHB is used, and some of the documented GHB-related deaths involve these products.

(PAAM Violence Against Women Training Division, May 2000)

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Which are you:

A raft that goes down the stream...
A sailboat that goes in the wind...
A steamboat that has the power within?



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T.E.A.M. SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM GOES NATIONWIDE

As many of you are aware, a lot has happened with the T.E.A.M. program since our last newsletter in April of 2000. In 2000, local law enforcement agencies were just beginning to receive the T.E.A.M. certification training. As of January 31, 2003, there are 141 local law enforcement agencies and 236 officers certified to teach T.E.A.M. That does not include the 162 MSP troopers, 12 Pennsylvania officers, one Colorado officer, and two Michigan prosecutors.

Prevention Services has finally taken their T.E.A.M. training show on the road! In October 2002, Sgt. Jerry King from Prevention Services and Sgt. Kevin Mark from Homeland Security traveled to Pennsylvania to train eight Pennsylvania officers. This was after four PA officers came to Michigan for the training in June. Other interested states for future training include Missouri and Ohio.

Please keep in mind that according to Official Order 77, PCSO's are required to be T.E.A.M. certified. If you are a PCSO who has not received this training, please speak with your post commander about getting scheduled for an upcoming session. With the success of the T.E.A.M. program, as well as the increased number of new PCSO's, it has been necessary to schedule two schools for 2003. If there is interest in having more than one trooper at your work site trained in this program, please contact Prevention Services.

After a week long training, on January 31, 2003, 26 officers and eight troopers became T.E.A.M. certified. The Prevention Services Section has scheduled a second T.E.A.M. school liaison instructor-training session for June 9-13, 2003.

Effective 2003, T.E.A.M. will incorporate a new module for elementary, middle, and high school addressing Internet safety as well as a high school lesson addressing domestic violence for a total of 28 lessons.

APRIL IS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

April is Sexual Assault Awareness month. Please consider contacting your local coalition on domestic and sexual violence. There may be events that you, or other troopers at your post, could become involved in, such as candlelight vigils and benefit concerts. This is a good opportunity for the community to see these events are supported by law enforcement.

Written Public Service Announcements (PSA's) will be e-mailed to your work sites. If you do not have e-mail, they will be sent to your post commander. Those of you with access to free radio time, please use the PSA's to remind the community help is out there if they or someone they know is the victim of a sexual assault. Once recorded, please ask the radio station to play the PSA's throughout the month of April. Those of you who do not have radio contacts, now would be an ideal time to call one of your local radio station managers to explore providing PSA's. Local newspapers may be another resource for communicating the PSA.

PERSONAL PROTECTION PROGRAMS

As a PCSO, you may receive requests in your post area to present personal protection programs. These programs can vary depending on the audience, such as personal protection in the workplace, rape awareness, law enforcement tactical response to hostage situations in schools, Internet safety and computer crimes, terrorism awareness, and school safety awareness. The Prevention Services Section is developing a CD-ROM containing personal protection programs on power point, corresponding instructor notes, and necessary handouts. Our goal is to make this available by fall of 2003. If you have a program before this, please contact PSS for resource materials.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

- April, 2003 Sexual Assault Awareness month
- May 19, 2003, one-day conference for local law enforcement agencies covering domestic violence issues.
- T.E.A.M. School June 9-13, and a two-day PCSO update in August. Topics discussed will include domestic violence, Internet safety, and abuse of the elderly and disabled.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAMS

If you are looking for information on Neighborhood Watch Programs for your community crime awareness groups, www.property.pbpl.com is an excellent web site to take a look at. There are a number of products, which can be purchased over the Internet, such as neighborhood watch signs, posters, etc.



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